

# CRANBORNE STONE

## **GENERAL INFORMATION, CARE & MAINTENANCE OF CAST STONE**

### **HANDLING**

Although cast stone is very strong in compression, like quarried stone, cast stone can be weaker when pulled apart or stretched. To ensure that your new garden ornament arrives undamaged in its final position, we recommend you take a few minutes to plan your move;

- When moving or lifting our garden ornaments, care should be taken that you have sufficient help to achieve the lift or move safely from start to finish.
- It is important that the access to your final location is clear and firm and that you take into account steps and other changes in level that maybe a problem when moving a heavy object.
- You should ensure that you have room to manoeuvre along narrow pathways or through doorways.
- The surface you are placing on should be ready, level and solid. Other than a solid paved terrace or patio, a paving slab base cut into a lawn and cemented in place is recommended.
- When lifting your garden ornament avoid holding planters and vases along the very edges of the rim as this may cause damage.
- When maneuvering garden ornaments near hard surfaces we recommend protecting edges (especially thin edges) and corners with blankets or other protective materials to avoid chipping or damage.

### **EFFLORESCENCE or LIME BLOOM**

Like all cementitious products, a white deposit may appear on the surface of casts in certain weather conditions. This is not permanent; in fact it is part of the natural weathering process and will disappear in a matter of days. If required, it can be removed using a proprietary acid washing agent or even with thin household bleach.

### **WEATHERING AND AGING**

All of our cast stone products (unless specifically treated) are semi-porous and will age naturally. The exact aging effect will depend entirely on the position of the garden ornament and the lichens and mosses present in the immediate environment.

Over time, the casts will take on a similar patina to other natural materials (stone or brick) nearby.

### **Tips on aging your stone....**

- Generally speaking, the damper and more shaded your location, the quicker your garden ornament will age and weather.
- Placing garden ornaments near well weathered stone will also help.
- Smearing the new casts with diluted compost or other organic solutions and rubbing in well will take the shine off a new cast, helping lichens to grow.
- Lastly, allow time to age your garden ornament with grace and elegance.